

# THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

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## ART

GALLERIES: CHELSEA

### **KAREN HEAGLE**

Two things distinguish Heagle's paintings: the fact that they're painted on paper—which gives them the bright look of posters—and their subjects. Even in the anything-goes world of contemporary art, Heagle hits a high note of oddness. A pregnant man with a Fauvist flecked beard caresses his belly. Voluptuous dark-haired women pose with a snake and a Holstein cow. Several works feature vultures. Heagle's fluid draftsmanship and bright palette show the influence of Matisse, and her Dionysian tone is pure Dana Schutz, but her work's strongest affinity is with the bizarre realm of thrift-store paintings. Through Dec. 6. (1-20, at 557 W. 23rd St. 212-645-1100.)